

## Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SP-02

STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 FEA-01

INT-05 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-02 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-15 AGR-10 OES-05 /122 W

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R 181210Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9566

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY N

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

UNCLAS DAKAR 0340

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, FR, SG, XJ, EINV, MR

SUBJ: PRESS CONFERENCE OF FRENCH MINISTER OF COOPERATION

SUMMARY. IN PRESS CONFERENCE PRIOR HIS DEPARTURE

JANUARY 16, FRENCH MINISTER OF COOPERATION PIERRE

ABELIN DISCUSSED HIS VISIT TO SENEGAL AND FRENCH-

FRANCOPHONE AFRICA RELATIONS END SUMMARY.

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1. ABELIN SAID THAT WHILE IN DAKAR HE REVIEWED WITH PRESIDENT SENGHOR PRINCIPAL POLITICAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO SENEGAL AND FRANCE. HE DISCUSSED ACP-EEC NEGOTIATIONS WITH PRIME MINISTER. IN TALKS WITH SENEGALESE MINISTER OF PLAN, HE WENT OVER WAYS FRANCE MIGHT USEFULLY ASSIST SENEGALESE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. HE IMPLIED FRANCE WOULD SOON SEND ECONOMIC MISSION TO HELP IDENTIFY PRIORITIES FOR ASSISTANCE TO SENEGAL.

2. ABELIN TOLD PRESS AS COMPLETE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AS POSSIBLE HAD OCCURRED BETWEEN HIM AND MAURITANIAN AUTHORITIES ON OCCASION HIS VISIT TO NOUAKCHOTT. HE SAID NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN OPENED ON IMPORTANT PROBLEM OF INDEMNITY TO MIFERMA STOCKHOLDERS FOR RECENT NATIONALIZATION THEIR IRON-MINING COMPANY. HE EXPRESSED WISH NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE CONDUCTED RAPIDLY BUT COMMENTED THAT GOM "DID NOT YET HAVE AT ITS DISPOSAL ALL THE ELEMENTS OF THE PROBLEM". ABELIN HOPED MIFERMA AFFAIR WOULD BE WORKED OUT SO AS NOT TO HAVE REPERCUSSIONS ON CERTAIN BANKING ESTABLISHMENTS. HE CONCLUDED THAT THERE IS CONVERGENCE OF FRENCH AND MAURITANIAN THINKING WITH REGARD ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

3. WITH RESPECT FRANCO-GUINEAN RELATIONS, ABELIN CONFIRMED THAT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES HAD BEGUN AND NOTED THAT "FRENCH GOVERNMENT MANIFESTS CONSIDERABLE COMPREHENSION WITH REGARD TO ITS GUINEAN PARTNER."

4. ABELIN OBSERVED THAT DATE OF MEETING BETWEEN FRANCOPHONE AFRICAN CHIEFS OF STATE AND PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING HAD NOT YET BEEN FIXED BUT WOULD PROBABLY TAKE PLACE DURING LAST WEEK OF FEBRUARY OR FIRST TWO WEEKS OF MARCH. ISSUES HE THOUGHT MIGHT BE RAISED WOULD BE: YAOUNDE ACCORDS, PETROLEUM, AND REPERCUSSIONS OF WORLD MONETARY INSTABILITY FOR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES. ABELIN NOTED THAT SOME STATES SHYING AWAY FROM OUAGADOUGOU AS SITE OF MEETING BECAUSE OF UPPER VOLTAN-MALI BORDER DISPUTE. HE SUGGESTED THAT BRAZZAVILLE MIGHT BE CHOSEN AS SITE OF MEETING. IN ANY CASE, HE ADDED, NOT UP TO FRANCE TO UNCLASSIFIED

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CHOOSE, BUT FRANCE WOULD RESPOND FAVORABLY TO ANY INVITATION EXTENDED TO IT.

5. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ABOUT STATUS OF SENEGALESE WORKERS IN FRANCE, ABELIN AFFIRMED THAT PRESENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS HAD MADE IT NECESSARY TO RESTRICT IMMIGRATION FOR SEVERAL MONTHS  
AGGREY

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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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